

St Mary's School, Mosgiel Newsletter



Mission Statement—St Mary's is a Catholic School dedicated to the provision of the highest quality primary education with a special emphasis of Catholic values and attitudes.

Phone: 03 489-7716 Fax: 03 489-0991

E-mail: office@stmarys-mosgiel.school.nz
www.stmarys-mosgiel.school.nz

Term 1 Week 9

27th March 2012

62 Church Street, Mosgiel, Dunedin 9024

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of St Mary's School,

Last week I read a long and in-depth article about the highly successful Finnish education system. The article highlighted the reasons that the Finnish system was so successful, and these reasons made it sound very like the New Zealand Curriculum minus National Standards, and contrasted it with the abysmal failure of the American Education system which is one of the sources that National Standards were taken from.

The Finnish system is successful because it caters for the whole individual person, often in smaller schools. Respect within and between the sections of the system are vital and genuinely knowing the pupils and developing lessons that cater for them mean, that school and learning are enjoyable and we all do better with something that we like.

It worries me that a New Zealand Minister has made a scathing attack on Finland simply because they were being compared in a positive light to us by the leader of the opposition. As is often the case the comments were made in Parliament and are respected by parliamentary Privilege. But the fact remains that Finland has an education system that has a lot to admire and aspire to.

I have been to Finland and found it a country much like New Zealand, similar population, a focus on sport as a means of success, a unique culture and a very proud Nation so surely we would benefit basing the direction of our education system on a country that is very similar to ours and one whose education system is a success, rather than on countries exponentially larger whose systems are failing.

Have a great week, Mike Brosnahan.



**Room 6
Assembly last
Friday**



Our Vision : Confident, reflective, risk-taking, lifelong learners in a Catholic School.

Dates for 2012

March

Tuesday 27th Room 7 Rafting Trip
PTA meeting 7.30pm

Wednesday 28th Mufti Day

April 5th Easter Assembly 2.15pm
—End of Term 1

Monday 23rd Beginning of Term 2

Wednesday 25th ANZAC Day—school closed

Thursday 3rd May Parent meeting for
Confirmation 7pm Parish Centre.

Welcome new entrants Tane and William Bungard, to St Mary's School.



A thought for the week...

The principle goal of education is to create men who are capable of doing new things, not simply of repeating what other generations have done—men who are creative, inventive, and discoverers.

Ten Piaget

Altar Servers Sunday 1st April

Shannon Crooks, Jaylah Kennedy & Ryan Hanrahan

Prayer for the Sixth Sunday of Lent

God our loving Father, during this last week of Lent we thank you for your many blessings. We thank you for allowing us to become less centered on self and more open to the needs and concerns of others.

Help us now to become more open to life and more eager for living. Help us to prepare ourselves to celebrate the resurrection of your Son, Jesus. We pray in his name. Amen.

Mufti Day

Tomorrow Wednesday 28th March, we will be having a Mufti Day with a Gold coin donation to Caritas for Lent.

School Bank Account

If you wish to pay directly into the school's bank account please put the child's name that you are paying for in the reference box.

The account number is
ASB 123196 0004102 00
St Mary's School Mosgiel

Note—the old Westpac account is now closed

T Ball -

The St Mary's Angels Team.

Please bring your Sports uniform for a team photo at 2.50pm this Thursday.

PTA News

Entertainment Books are out on Friday!

All families will receive one book, if you would like to keep it please send payment of \$55 to school asap. If you don't think the book is for you then please return it to school asap as we are using the returned books to fill the extra orders.

\$11 from every book sold is given back to the school, so please ask family and friends if they wish to purchase one and support our school!

St Mary's School Monogram



If you wish to have a jersey or polarfleece jacket monogrammed, please leave these at the school office by the end of next week. We will send these away over the holidays to have the monogram put on.

This usually costs \$10 per jersey, and will be put on your child's school account.

Please make sure you have the jersey well named.

Dad's over 35 Needed

The Mosgiel Soccer Club is looking for a few more players for our masters team (over 35). If you are looking to get fit, have some fun and be part of a great family orientated club please contact Paul Lucas on 027 437 894.

Taieri Hockey

Taieri hockey are looking for an assistant for Garry who runs the hockey on a Saturday morning.

This could be one person or a group of people who are happy to help Garry with the smooth running of our local competition. Contact Pauline at the school office if you think you could lend a hand.



Fun Sports on Thursday Afternoon!

